

What is claimed is:

1. A method for drafting a patent application comprising:
 - 5 performing a first query session with an inventor to define elements of a first subject matter; and
 - generating a first patent specification based on the first subject matter defined elements.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - 10 filing a patent application based on the first patent specification.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 15 drawing a first figure based on the first subject matter defined elements.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - conducting a second query session with an inventor to define elements of a second subject matter;
 - 20 drafting a second patent specification based on the second subject matter defined elements; and
 - combining the first and second patent specifications.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
 - 25 drawing a second figure based on the second subject matter defined elements.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
 - 30 adjusting reference numerals in the first figure and the second figure so that each figure has unique reference numerals associated with elements shown in the figures.

7. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
adjusting reference numerals in the first specification and the second specification so that each specification has unique reference numerals associated with elements defined in the specification.
- 5 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:
adjusting the reference numerals in the second specification so that the lowest reference numeral in the second specification is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first specification.
9. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure so that the lowest reference numeral in the second figure is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first figure.
10. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure to match the adjusted reference numerals in the second specification.
11. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
generating a process flow chart.
12. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
generating an apparatus figure.
- 15 12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein the subject matter comprises a process.
13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein the subject matter comprises an apparatus.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
conducting a query session to generate an assignment for filing with the patent application.
15. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
5 conducting a query session to generate an assignment for filing with the combined patent application.
16. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving an assignment to a common entity from the inventor for filing with a patent application.
- 10 17. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
receiving an assignment to a common entity from the second inventor for filing with a patent application.
18. A method for drafting a patent application comprising:
15 performing a first query session with an inventor to define elements of a first subject matter;
generating a first patent specification based on the first subject matter defined elements.
drawing a first figure based on the first subject matter defined elements.
conducting a second query session with an inventor to define elements of a second subject matter;
20 drafting a second patent specification based on the second subject matter defined elements;
combining the first and second patent specifications;

drawing a second figure based on the second subject matter defined elements;

adjusting reference numerals in the first figure and the second figure so that each figure has unique reference numerals associated with elements shown in the figures;

5 adjusting reference numerals in the first specification and the second specification so that each specification has unique reference numerals associated with elements defined in the specification;

adjusting the reference numerals in the second specification so that the lowest reference numeral in the second specification is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first specification;

10 adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure so that the lowest reference numeral in the second figure is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first figure;

adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure to match the adjusted reference numerals in the second specification;

15 generating a process flow chart;

generating an apparatus figure;

receiving an assignment to a common entity from the inventor for filing

20 with a patent application; and

receiving an assignment to a common entity from the second inventor for filing with a patent application.

19. A computer readable medium containing instructions that when executed by a computer perform the steps of:

5 performing a first query session with an inventor to define elements of a first subject matter;

10 generating a first patent specification based on the first subject matter defined elements.

15 drawing a first figure based on the first subject matter defined elements.

20 conducting a second query session with an inventor to define elements of a second subject matter;

25 drafting a second patent specification based on the second subject matter defined elements;

30 combining the first and second patent specifications;

35 drawing a second figure based on the second subject matter defined elements;

40 adjusting reference numerals in the first figure and the second figure so that each figure has unique reference numerals associated with elements shown in the figures;

45 adjusting reference numerals in the first specification and the second specification so that each specification has unique reference numerals associated with elements defined in the specification;

50 adjusting the reference numerals in the second specification so that the lowest reference numeral in the second specification is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first specification;

adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure so that the lowest reference numeral in the second figure is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first figure;

adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure to match the adjusted reference numerals in the second specification;

5 generating a process flow chart;

generating an apparatus figure;

receiving an assignment to a common entity from the inventor for filing with a patent application; and

10 receiving an assignment to a common entity from the second inventor for filing with a patent application.

20. An apparatus for drafting a patent application comprising:

means for performing a first query session with an inventor to define elements of a first subject matter;

15 means for generating a first patent specification based on the first subject matter defined elements.

means for drawing a first figure based on the first subject matter defined elements;

means for conducting a second query session with an inventor to define elements of a second subject matter;

20 means for drafting a second patent specification based on the second subject matter defined elements;

means for combining the first and second patent specifications;

means for drawing a second figure based on the second subject matter defined elements;

means for adjusting reference numerals in the first figure and the second figure so that each figure has unique reference numerals associated with elements shown in the figures;

5 means for adjusting reference numerals in the first specification and the second specification so that each specification has unique reference numerals associated with elements defined in the specification;

means for adjusting the reference numerals in the second specification so that the lowest reference numeral in the second specification is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first specification;

10 means for adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure so that the lowest reference numeral in the second figure is greater than the highest reference numeral in the first figure;

means for adjusting the reference numerals in the second figure to match the adjusted reference numerals in the second specification;

15 means for generating a process flow chart;

means for generating an apparatus figure;

means for receiving an assignment to a common entity from the inventor for filing with a patent application; and

20 means for receiving an assignment to a common entity from the second inventor for filing with a patent application.